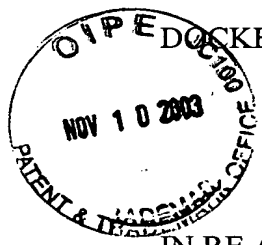


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IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

IN RE APPLICATION OF:

Ekaterina Aleksandrovna TABOLINA, et al.

SERIAL NUMBER: 10/073,293

FILED: February 13, 2002

FOR: METHOD FOR PRODUCING L-AMINO ACID USING BACTERIA BELONGING
TO THE GENUS ESCHERICHIA

STATUS REQUEST

COMMISSIONER FOR PATENTS
ALEXANDRIA, VIRGINIA 22313

SIR:

The Patent Office is respectfully requested to advise the undersigned of the approximate date a first Official Action will be issued in this Application.

A duplicate of this request and a prepaid return envelope are enclosed for your convenience.

Respectfully submitted,

OBLON, SPIVAK, McCLELLAND,
MAIER & NEUSTADT, P.C.

Derek J. Mason
Attorney of Record
Registration No. 35,270

Surinder Sachar
Registration No. 34,423



22850

(703) 413-3000
Fax: (703) 413-2220